

Foreign Press Meddling Rapped by Mansfield

Associated Press

Senate Majority Leader Mike Mansfield (D-Mont.) rebuked the press of foreign nations yesterday for some of its criticism on Sen. Barry Goldwater, the Republican presidential nominee.

"Much of the foreign press comment is, to say the least, in questionable taste and it could be, in the end, harmful to the relations between us," Mansfield said in a Senate speech sternly inviting the foreign newsmen to mind their own business.

"There is no panic in the United States over the nomination of Barry Goldwater," Mansfield said. "Much less ought one to be induced abroad to the detriment of overseas United States relations."

Americans, he said, are perfectly capable of making their own judgments at the voting polls in November and "have no need to be frightened or prodded as a part of the process of forming their judgments, by a panicky European press."

No Names Mentioned

Mansfield singled out no foreign newspaper by name in his speech, nor did he mention any specific country's press or disclose which comments had aroused his wrath.

Mansfield said he had noted with "interest and dismay the reaction of the press outside the United States to the nominee of the Republican Party." He said some of it was "far-fetched and car-

ried to an extreme."

"In my judgment," he added, however, "it will have no influence on American opinion. The American people are not likely to vote in a manner designed to please the foreign press or, for that matter, to displease the foreign press."

People Will Decide

Mansfield said the press, at home or abroad, has a right to its opinion, but that American elections "are the primary responsibility of the American people and they will be decided by the American people come next November."

"It is not the job of our press to become participants, even indirectly, in political campaigns of other nations," he continued. "Nor do I think it the responsibility of the press of other nations to participate even indirectly in the political campaigns in this country."

He said he supposed it would be too much to expect that the overseas press would declare a moratorium.

"But I believe it would be in the best interests of all concerned if that press would content itself with providing its readers with accurate factual information and a temperate analysis of political events here," Mansfield said.